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#1 DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

TAKING ON THE ROLE, ONE WAVE AT A TIME {page 12}

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Thursday, November 1, 2012

GETTY IMAGES

BRACED AFTER IMPACT

President Obama visited ravaged coastal towns in southern New Jersey with with Gov. Christie With floodwater receding, residents like Dana Vanzant, pictured with with Obama in Brigantine, began recovery {page 02}

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DISASTER ZONE TOUR

Political adversaries put aside differences as Obama tours ◗ Southern shore towns didn't bare brunt of Sandy ◗ In odd move, Christie postpones Halloween

Residents and business owners along the Jersey shore turned their attention to recovery efforts from Hurricane Sandy yesterday, with many expressing optimism that things could be back to normal by the weekend.

To review the recovery, President Obama visited points along the shore with New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, speaking with victims and thanking rescuers. Christie has been one of Obama's most vocal critics, but he has praised the president and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for their response to the Garden State, which was hardest hit.

Thousands were still without power and countless residents in coastal communities were left homeless.

Ocean City and Sea Isle experienced severe flooding, but the damage paled in comparison to some of the northern coastal communities, according to Vicki Clark, president of the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce.

"I have spoken with the authorities in all our barrier island communities and that the majority feeling is that, by the weekend, businesses will be re-opening," Clark said, noting businesses would decide on a case-by-case basis.

The cost of repair is uncertain, although estimates ranged in the billions.

While the hybrid storm caused more damage than Hurricane Irene last year, Sandy's fall arrival provided a silver lining for some businesses.

Sunny Batag, manager of Sandy Shores Resort on Atlantic Avenue in North Wildwood, said his business closed for the year a few weeks ago.

"If this was in the middle of the summer it really would have been a disaster," Batag said, adding that they have four to five months before the tourist season starts back up.

Despite the devastation, Clark expressed the resilience of many in the area.

"We're ready to get back to work and get things up and running," she said.

SOLOMON D. LEACH

Say what?

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie postponed Halloween in the Garden State in the aftermath of Sandy.

Christie signed an executive order postponing Halloween until Nov. 5, the Associated Press reported. The governor said trick-or-treating children would have faced flooding, downed trees and fallen power lines.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ocean City was hit hard by Sandy and thousands remained without power yesterday.

Trying to put politics aside

It's no secret that Obama and Christie have been political enemies, causing their tour yesterday to dominate the headlines six days before the election.

Christie told Fox News on Tuesday, "If you think right now I give a damn about presidential politics, then you don't know me." That was before the news that he would tour the shore arm-in-arm with Obama.

The White House also did its best to diffuse speculation that the tour was politically motivated.

"This is not a time for politics," White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters on the flight to Atlantic City. **METRO/SDL**

In the news

Murder in SW Philly

An unidentified man was killed in Southwest Philadelphia yesterday morning. Police said the victim was shot multiple times in the chest at the intersection of 59th Street and Elmwood Avenue shortly after midnight. Investigators are still working to determine the man's age and identity. **METRO**

In the news

Twitter Zombie

Researchers at Drexel have created a "TwitterZombie."

The invention is not a brain-eating social media monster, but the software helps retrieve old tweets, which typically disappear after six days or 1,500 total tweets on the same subject.

SEPTA back up and running

Transportation in the Philadelphia area returned to normal yesterday.

SEPTA resumed Regional Rail service, with some minor delays due to signal problems. The mass transit system had been completely shut down late Sunday night as Sandy approached. The Philadelphia International Airport also operated close to normal for the first time since Sunday.

"We do encourage all travelers to contact airlines before they go to the airport to check the status of their flight," said airport spokeswoman Victoria Lupica.

PATCO was also operating close to schedule. NJ Transit resumed Camden bus River Line service, although Rail and Access Link will remain suspended until further notice. **METRO/SDL**

850K

Number of PECO customers affected by Sandy, the most in the company's history. About 375,000 were still without power.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ SEPTA resumed regional rail service, but there were minor delays — as were be expected.

1700

Number of Pennsylvania National Guard troops deployed throughout the commonwealth.

2600

Estimated number of flights cancelled at Philadelphia International due to Sandy.

15

Minutes delay on some SEPTA trains, including Lansdale/Doylestown line.

Babysitter shot dead in front of kids

Teenage woman shot in head on West Philly porch
She was looking after seven cousins when shot in head

Police are investigating the death of a teenage babysitter who was killed in the Wynnefield Heights section of West Philadelphia Tuesday night.

Officers said Sherita Hamilton, 19, was shot once in the head while standing in the doorway of her aunt and uncle's home on the 1700 block of North Aberdeen Street shortly after 9 p.m. and died on scene.

Investigators do not believe that Hamilton, who lived nearby on the 2100 block of North Wanamaker Street in Overbrook, was the intended target.

Lt. John Walker of the Southwest Detective Division said a young man was being chased down Aberdeen Street by two armed men. "Unfortunately, he runs up the steps as [Hamilton] is opening the door of the property she's babysitting inside," Walker said. "They keep shooting at the house and she was shot in the head."

285
Homicide victims this year so far, as of yesterday afternoon.

Hamilton's aunt Paula, who asked that her last name not be used, said that Hamilton was at her house with her five children, each between the ages of two and 11.

"She was babysitting my kids," she said. "They saw the whole thing."

A memorial of stuffed animals and notes on the porch of the home was growing yesterday afternoon as officers continued to interview neighbors. They took one young man away in a police car, but said he was not a person of interest in the crime. Hamilton reportedly opened the door to a man that was attempting to gain inside as he fled from two gunmen just before she was shot, but police said yesterday that they couldn't confirm that information.

"She just started college, nursing school," Paula said of her niece yesterday afternoon as tears streamed down her face. "She didn't bother [anybody]. We've lived here for 12 years and we've never had anything like this happen." She said that Hamilton was deeply passionate about dedicating her life to the health care profession.

Hamilton's uncle, who also lives at the home, declined comment. "I'm just too shook up," he said. **ALEX WIGGLESWORTH**

BIKARD LAHMA/METRO

▶ Police said Hamilton (inset) was shot on the 1700 block of North Aberdeen and died on the scene.

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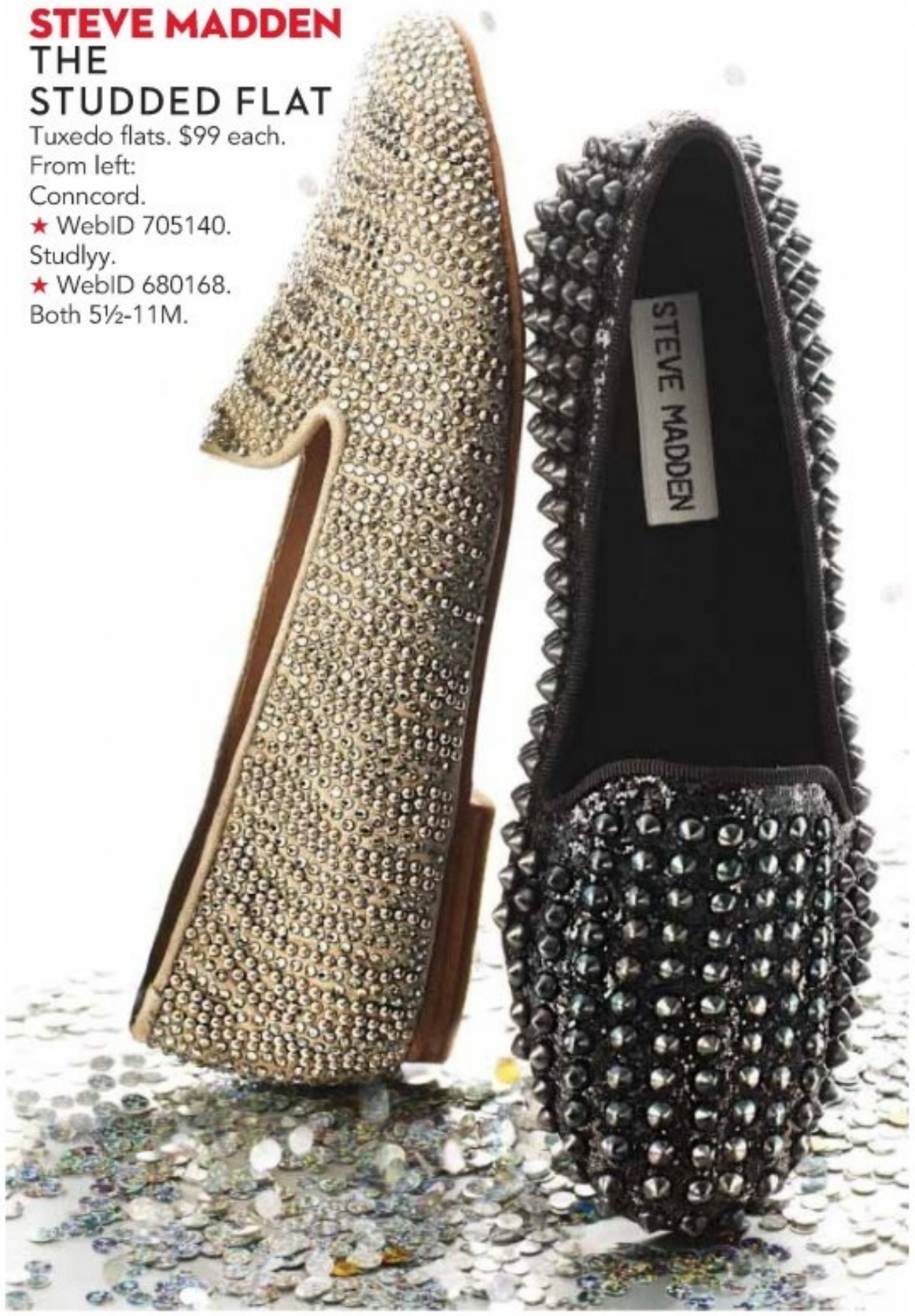

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Obama holds slight edge over Romney in latest poll

President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney are neck and neck in four of the most hotly contested states in next week's election, but Obama holds a slight advantage in two of them, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released yesterday.

The online survey of four battleground states showed Obama leading by 3 percentage points in Ohio and 2 points in Virginia. The two are dead even in Florida, and Romney leads by 1 percentage point in Colorado.

The state-level polls do not show a clear advantage for either candidate in any of those states going into Tuesday's election, as each race falls within the poll's credibility interval, the tool used to account for statistical variation in Internet-based polls.

But taken together, they indicate that Obama holds a slight edge in the state-by-state battle to rack up the 270 electoral votes needed to control the White House.

Since many of the largest states are considered solidly Democratic, Romney needs to win most of the nine or so states that are considered to be truly competitive in the election.

For Romney, winning the White House without winning Ohio will be difficult, and Obama leads there by 48 percent to 45 percent among likely voters. That margin is just within the survey's credibility interval of 3.8 percentage points.

"That's enough of a difference to give him an edge, if not a decisive lead," Ipsos pollster Julia Clark said.

In Virginia, Obama leads by a narrower margin of 48 percent to 46 percent among likely voters, within the credibility interval of 4.2 percentage points. Among all registered voters, Obama leads by a much wider margin of 54 percent to 37 percent.

Colorado is the only state in which Romney holds a lead, by 46 percent to 45 percent, well within the credibility interval of 4.1 percentage points. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ President Barack Obama, right, holds a 3 point lead over Republican candidate Mitt Romney, left, in the latest Reuters/Ipsos poll.

Europeans back Obama: poll

More than 90 percent of northern Europeans would vote for President Barack Obama if they were able to cast ballots in the United Sates' election next week because they see Mitt Romney as too right wing, British pollster YouGov said yesterday.

"By continental European standards, Obama is considered right-of-centre or even right-wing," Joe Twyman, director of Political and Social Research at the pollster, told Reuters by telephone, adding that Romney is simply too much of an unknown quantity and too right wing for European tastes.

▶ Tim Cook

Apple falls after CEO overhauls management

Apple Inc. shares declined after Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook embarked on a sweeping management overhaul at the world's most valuable company.

Shares of Apple fell 1.4 percent to $595.32 in New York. Yesterday was the first trading session since Apple announced the departure of mobile software head Scott Forstall and retail leader John Browett. Trading shut down for two days this week because of Hurricane Sandy.

Forstall will leave next year and serve as an adviser to Cook until then, Cupertino, California-based Apple said on Oct. 29. Executives Jony Ive, Eddy Cue, Bob Mansfield and Craig Federighi will take on added management responsibilities, the company said. **BLOOMBERG**

Contractor leaked test to guards at nuke complex

WASHINGTON. Guards at the U.S. government's maximum-security facility for weapons-grade uranium were given a copy of a test and its answers before they were to take it, an official report by the Energy Department's Inspector General said on yesterday.

The test was prompted by a major security breach at the government's Y-12 nuclear facility in Oak Ridge, Tenn., in July, when an 82-year-old nun and two aging peace activists broke into the complex and vandalized it.

A federal inspector from the Energy Department's Office of Health, Safety and Security was at the site on Aug. 29, the day before the test was to be given. He found a copy of the test and answer key, in the car of the security guard who was his escort, the report said. **REUTERS**

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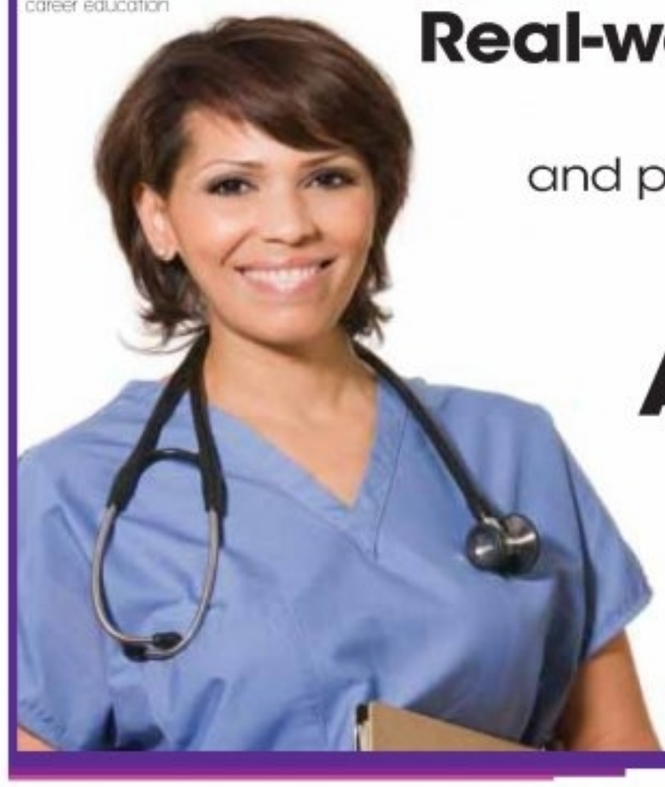

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News in brief

Twitter stoked weird rumours during storm

As Hurricane Sandy pounded the U.S. Atlantic coast Monday night, knocking out electricity and Internet connections, millions of residents turned to Twitter as a part-newswire, part-911 hotline that hummed through the night even as some websites failed and parts of Manhattan fell dark.

But the social network also became a fertile ground for pranksters who disseminated rumors and Photoshopped images, including a false tweet Monday night that the trading floor at the New York Stock Exchange was submerged under several feet of water.

The exchange issued a denial, but not before the tweet was circulated by countless users and reported on-air by CNN. **REUTERS**

NY subway back to limited service

New York City's subway system will resume limited operations Thursday, four days after it was shut down ahead of the arrival of Sandy, the massive storm that brought unprecedented flooding to the world's financial capital, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said.

Limited service on suburban commuter rail lines serving Long Island to the east and Westchester County and Connecticut to the north was to resume on Wednesday afternoon, Cuomo said at a press conference. Trains were to begin operating on the Long Island Railroad and Metro North Railroad systems at 2 p.m. Wednesday. **REUTERS**

▶ NY's subway system is starting to reopen.

GETTY IMAGES

Over 6 million still without power in NE

About 6.2 million homes and businesses in 16 U.S. states remained without power yesterday as utilities scrambled to restore service disrupted by Hurricane Sandy, federal data showed.

The power companies had restored electricity to some 2.28 million customers in the U.S. Northeast, although the pace of recovery in New York appeared to lag behind other storm-hit states, the data showed.

At the storm's peak, 8.48 million customers were without power after Sandy came ashore with hurricane-force winds in New Jersey on Monday, according to Department of Energy data.

Power has been restored to nearly 600,000 customers in New Jersey, out of more than 2.6 million that lost power, although more than half the state still remains dark, according to the data as of 10 a.m.

In New York, where Sandy knocked out power to nearly a third of the customers in New York City and Westchester County, only about 165,000 customers of the total 2.1 million that lost power in the state have seen it restored, according to the figures.

The DOE did not provide any further comment or explanation for the figures.

In New York, power company Consolidated Edison Inc said Sandy was the largest storm-related outage in its history. The previous record was the more than 200,000 customers affected by Hurricane Irene in 2011. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Utility workers repair a stop light damaged by Hurricane Sandy on Tuesday in Ocean City, N.J.

Obama, Romney halt campaigns — for now

President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney yesterday briefly put aside their fierce battle for the White House, as they avoided politics to focus on relief efforts after mammoth storm Sandy left millions of Americans struggling to recover.

With a week left in a deadlocked election race, Obama canceled campaign trips planned for Tuesday and Wednesday to stay in Washington and supervise storm recovery, while Romney held a storm relief event in the swing state of Ohio but ducked most political talk.

The campaign truce was likely to be short-lived.

Romney planned to hit the trail again for rallies in Florida on Wednesday. Obama was expected to return to campaigning today for the final sprint to Election Day. **REUTERS**

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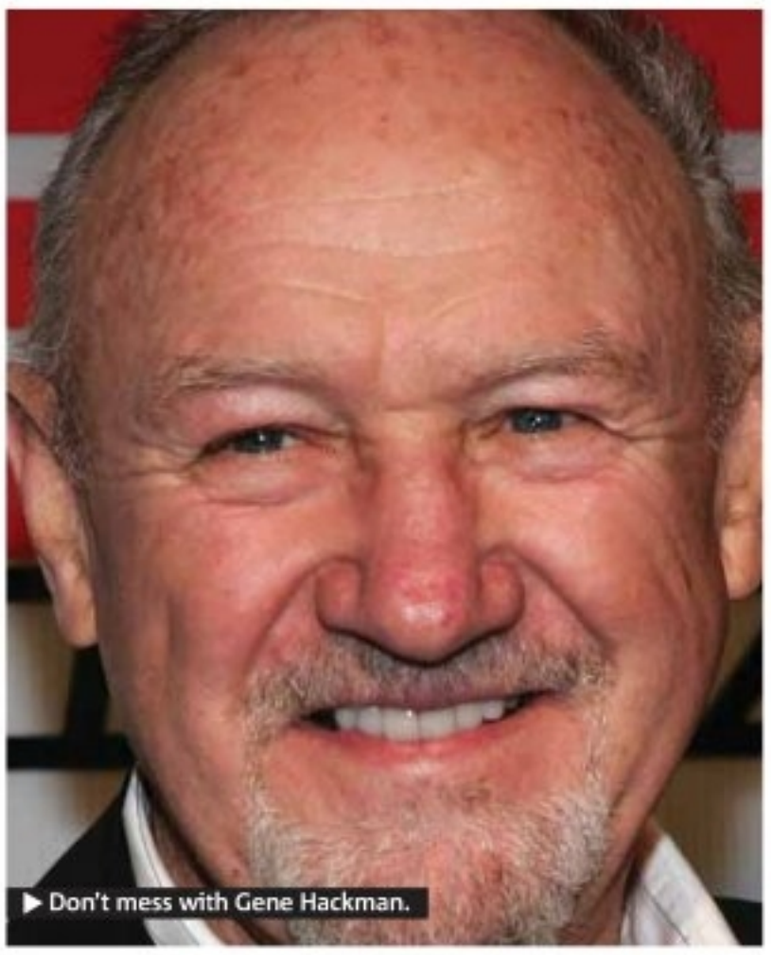
THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip **@dorothyatmetro** **dorothy.robinson@metro.us**

Hackman rumbles with homeless man

Gene Hackman reportedly slapped a homeless man — but before you become aghast at the actor's lack of sympathy for those less fortunate, apparently the homeless man accosted Hackman's wife, **Betsy Arakawa**, and the actor's slap was justified.

The story goes like this: Hackman and Arakawa were leaving a restaurant in New Mexico when the homeless man, **Bruce Becker**, reportedly approached the couple. An argument ensued, culminating with Becker insulting Arakawa and Hackman defending himself by striking Becker. The police were called, but no charges were made against Hackman, as it was determined he acted in self-defense. His rep did not respond to a request for comment. Now the homeless man can claim he was slapped by Gene Hackman, which is more than the rest of us can say. However, we have homes — so let's call it even.


▶ Don't mess with Gene Hackman.

Snooki to soon be single?

Poor baby **Lorenzo LaValle**. Not only does he have an Oompa Loompa for a mother, but if Star magazine is to be believed, that Oompa Loompa will soon be raising him on her own.

The magazine is reporting that **Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi**, who is currently promoting her MTV spin-off "Snooki and JWoww" and her fiance **Jionni LaValle** are breaking up and are only together for fame. (Snooki is only doing something for attention? You don't say!)

"Snooki is desperate to stay famous," a source told the magazine. "She can't stand to be around Jionni. She's only going to go through with the wedding for a million-dollar payday." And Snooki is angry at Jionni because "he refuses to even touch the baby and acts like he can't hear Lorenzo screaming for attention," the source says. Star says the animosity between the two are so bad they can't be in the same room for one another.

But, of course, they can be in the same room when the cameras on!

▶ If Snooki becomes a single mom, does she get another MTV spin-off?

This means that Snooki will soon have her own spin-off-off (that's a spin-off of a spin-off) about being a single mom. This is great for MTV, as its lineup of reality TV shows about young, foolish women with bad tans raising babies solo was looking kinda slim lately.

Talking point

Three weddings for Cyrus and Hemsworth

Miley Cyrus is going all out when she marries **Liam Hemsworth**, celebrating with three lavish weddings around the globe, according to Star magazine. Cyrus and Hemsworth, who announced their engagement in June, are said to be planning ceremonies in Los Angeles, her native Tennessee and his hometown of Melbourne, Australia. All three fetes will take place next year — with a different wedding dress for each — and Cyrus has reportedly budgeted $1 million for the endeavor.

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TV watch list

The 46th Annual CMA Awards

SPECIAL. Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood team up for a fifth time to host the annual CMA Awards, set to include performances by Kenny Chesney and Taylor Swift, both of whom are up for Entertainer of the Year (Jason Aldean, Blake Shelton and Paisley round out the category). **8 p.m., ABC**

ABC/ROB D'AMICO

'The Vampire Diaries'

DRAMA. A frat party with the theme "Murder House" serves as the perfect event for Damon to teach Elena how to feed on humans — without killing them. **8 p.m., The CW**

'The X Factor'

REALITY. Look alive, Britney — the live shows kick off tonight. **8 p.m., Fox**

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mystyle

What to wear while you wait for autumn

Cardigans

Stashed at your desk, they were your best friend all summer long while combating the arctic office temperature. Now, a cardi keeps you cozy outdoors until full-on jacket weather finally arrives. **Gap, Cashmere Open Front Cardigan, $128,** www.gap.com

Cropped pants

These '60s-inspired pants keep you cool when it's warm (not to mention they look killer with heels or sandals). They look just as appropriate and chic with four layers and a jacket thrown on. **J.Crew Collection Cafe Capri in silk scarf foulard, $298,** www.jcrew.com

Scarves

Easily shoved into your bag when inside or when the sun comes out to play, scarves also instantly snaz up a blah outfit. **Loft, Color Pop Animal Print scarf, $35,** www.loft.com

Cute socks

It's not quite time for full-on leggings, but with bare legs, you risk feeling the chill. The solution: Knee-high socks, which will keep you just warm enough. Wear them with your heels to extend the life of summer sandals. **DKNY Modern Diamond Knee High, $10, DKNY stores**

Blazers

Face it — it's hard to wear blazers under down jackets. Take advantage of the warmer temps and rock this sophisticated piece with just about anything right now — jeans, printed dresses, sweatpants, whatever. **Topshop Ponte Rolled Sleeve blazer, $70,** www.topshop.com

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myentertainment

Top five films

UNIVERSAL PICTURES
▶ "The Man with the Iron Fists."

1 **"The Man with the Iron Fists"** Wu-Tang Clan's RZA co-wrote, directed and stars in this kung-fu caper, which was co-produced, fittingly, by Quentin Tarantino. It tells the tale of a 19th century blacksmith (RZA) who builds elaborate weaponry to defend his tiny village.

2 **"Wreck-It Ralph"** John C. Reilly gives voice to the hulk-ing video game villain who sets off to see what life would be like as a hero in another game.

3 **"Flight"** Denzel Washington stars as pilot Whip Whitaker, who becomes a hero when he saves his plane from crashing. It soon becomes clear, however, that he had alcohol in his system while on duty.

4 **"Cloud Atlas"** The Wachowski team and co-director Tom Tykwer present this adaptation of the David Mitchell novel of the same name. Tom Hanks and Halle Berry play six different characters in the time-traveling epic that explores the ways in which we are all connected.

5 **"Chasing Mavericks"** Gerard Butler plays a cranky veteran surfer aptly named "Frosty" in this story of a young boy's dream to conquer a killer wave.

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138	Norris Helem	2001	John Timms	2171	Sammy Jones Jr.	3004	James Cooper
151	Kevin Davis	2005	Himmiea Cooper	2239	Tamara Watson	3005	James Cooper
1007	Cynthia Hawkins	2010	Dawn Roseborough	2248	Ernest Baldwin	3024	Rosa Pujols
1019	Denise Taylor	2017	Wilbert Ellison	2265	Norris Helem	3036	Lateefah Brown
1035	Valerie Jackson	2020	Chamara Prince	2280	Ronald Harris	3048	Tiffany Nixon
1037	Frederick Fields	2057	Sonya Trippett	2287	Yasin Abdul-Hakim	3050	Alphonso Wright
1048	Amanda Bivens	2088	Tatiana Jarrells	2302	Chandra Newsome Simmons	3058	Braheem Hawkins
1073	Karen Clement	2122	Erica Drew	2354	Karina Rodriquez	3061	Monique Townsend
1183	Lateefah Brown	2150	Vincent Linder Jr.	2357	Sean King	3119	Tyrone Small

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2027 Eupha Jeanne McCrary	2058 Ott, Joe	3158 Babb, Randolph
2037 Ransome, Brenda	3012 Torres, Carmen	3212 Davenport, Naquiesha
2051 Phillips, Kamika	3099 Gomez, Quanna	3220 Martinez, Elaine

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Are past betrayals ruining your current relationship?

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DR. JANE GREER

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Did Eva Longoria's recent break up with Mark Sanchez have anything to do with the memories of Tony Parker's infidelity? There didn't seem to be any indication that they were having trouble, but sometimes there is nothing to see because it is what's going on below the surface that can cause the problem. For many, it's hard to start over, especially if you've been betrayed in a previous relationship. You don't have to be a celebrity to ask the question: is your past interfering with your present?

Take my patient Hillary, for example. Her boyfriend had been cheated on by his previous girlfriend. He always wants to know where Hillary is and who she is talking to. She has no intention of hurting him or being with another guy, but his demands and constant questioning make her feel boxed in. The other day, when an old friend called, she didn't tell her boyfriend — not because she had anything to hide, but because she was afraid of how he would react. He found out later and blew up, angry that she had kept it from him. There was no actual problem, but he was creating one. His jealousy and accusations were perpetuating the very thing he was looking to avoid.

Take your partner at face value. If Hillary had been able to explain that it was just an old college friend who had called, and her boyfriend had been able to listen and believe it, things would have gone smoother. Look at the consistency between what your partner says and what he or she does. My patient wasn't making any moves to be with someone else. If her boyfriend hadn't been carrying over the fear from his last heartbreak, he would have been able to see that things were good between them. Most importantly, focus on the present, not the past or the future.

▶ Eva Longoria may find herself projecting the problems of her past with Tony Parker (below right) onto her recent boyfriend, Mark Sanchez (left).

— Relationship expert ***Dr. Jane Greer*** *is creator of* ***"Shrink Wrap"*** *— national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships — and host of* ***"Let's Talk Sex"*** *at* ***Healthylife.net.*** *Her book,* ***"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"*** *is available nationwide.*

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1004 Jacqueline Regan	1077 Simon Latimore	1107 Abu Tilghman	1176 Cassandra D Johnson
2012 Timothy Shanahan	2031 Jamal Hernandez	2069 Kristen Hagins	2161 Tiffany McMillian
2164 Eileen Kernick	2228 Catherine Colburne	2289 Kevin Laws	2297 Douglas Hickson
2316 Ruby Torbore Reid	2327 Jeaninne Walton	2357 Latonya Marshall	

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1133 Diane James	2122 Ronald Beck	2425 Donald Ford
1136 Calvin Harrison Jr.	2127 Gregory Carlton	2441 Byron Hopkins
1142 Angela Brown	2219 Nate Pompey	2532 Anwar Coleman
1148 Brian Bradley	2246 Jaasmine Smith	2538 Barbara Addison
1441 Mary Ellen Raden	2306 Adia Harmon	2600 Shawn Morgan
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1084 Meier Robert	1273 Griggs Larry	1502 Robinson Shelby
1102 Cyderia Griffin	1335 Halowood Gabrjelle	1707 Hyacinth Davis
1151 Peterson Barbara	1341 Stabile Emilia	1717 Reid Beyyah Jibril Haji
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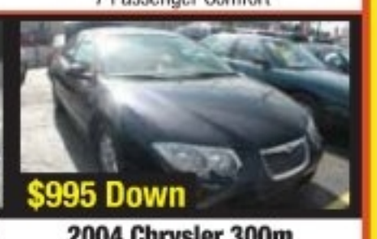

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Gerard Butler's hanging 10

The adventurous actor had to learn to surf with the best of them for his latest, 'Chasing Mavericks'

Gerard Butler had only the most basic appreciation for surfing before he set to work on "Chasing Mavericks" — and that's putting it mildly.

"I had surfed about three or four times in my life," Butler admits. The Scottish actor knew he'd have to amp up his game if he wanted to properly capture the essence of surfing great Frosty Hesson, who taught teenager Jay Moriarity (played by newcomer Jonny Weston in the film) to ride Mavericks, the most dangerous waves in the country.

Quoted

"When you get up on that wave and become one with it, you just become one with nature."
BUTLER

Not one to shy away from a challenge, Butler dove right in — and paid for it with an epic wipeout. "Jonny Weston and I both surfed Mavericks. It was where I was taken down," Butler says with a coy smile. Getting pulled under a wall of water, his admiration for what these athletes do only intensified. "It taught me a lesson. It's not a pleasant experience," he offers. Even though that moment sent him to the hospital, Butler marveled at the sport's ability to foster a Zen-like feeling in the surfers as they ride these monsters of water.

"It's incredibly meditative and spiritual," Butler explains. "I found the whole experience really transformative."
NED EHRBAR/MWN

JEFFREY MAYER/WIREIMAGE

Challenges on shore

The second challenge facing the actor was portraying a real-life individual, and Butler wanted to do Hesson justice as a complex individual. "He's a very philosophical character, and he's well-read. So I wanted to play that guy who enjoys that, but at the same time, he harbors a lot of pain," Butler says. "There's the person you experience, but he also now knows the stories being told about him."

▶ Gerard Butler stars as surfing great Frosty Hesson in "Chasing Mavericks."

High hopes

Now that Butler has the experience under his belt, he looks back fondly on the moment he knew that "Chasing Mavericks" would be his next film — which happened to coincide with a completely different kind of lesson. "I was learning to fly a helicopter along the coast. I saw all the guys on surfboards. I was like, 'What am I thinking? I need to get a place in Malibu and I need to take this movie and learn how to surf!'" Butler says. "I touched down and called them and said, 'Let's do it!'"

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Four years ago, Mitt Romney warned that "you can kiss the American automotive industry goodbye" if the U.S. government agreed to bail it out prior to being restructured in bankruptcy.

But Romney got it completely wrong. Although Chrysler and General Motors received two rounds of bailouts before both companies ultimately filed for bankruptcy in mid-2009, the American automotive industry emerged with surging sales and renewed profitability.

Romney's fearmongering in opposition to the auto bailouts has cost him with auto workers in Ohio – likely to be the most crucial of all swing states. Auto workers' skepticism of Mitt Romney is certainly justified, but not for the reasons most might think.

You see, President Obama actually got it wrong in the third debate: Mitt Romney did not propose letting the auto industry fail. It is certainly possible that even with government guarantees on lines of credit down the entire supply chain there simply wouldn't have been enough private capital available to keep things going. But this misses the point. Romney's sin on the auto bailout was far worse than merely favoring private financing over public.

Romney argued that the auto industry was doomed to failure because auto workers' salaries and benefits grew so large that it became impossible to compete. Romney warned that auto workers must accept "sanity in salaries and perks." Mitt Romney blamed the failure of the American auto industry on the auto workers, so he proposed to save it by crushing them.

Without those government bailouts, Chrysler and GM would have been forced to enter bankruptcy immediately and suspend production indefinitely. With hundreds of thousands of auto workers in limbo, the unions would have faced pressure to give massive concessions in bankruptcy negotiations. By allowing the auto workers to continue working, the bailouts bought enough time for the unions to negotiate a fair deal for their workers.

This is the real reason why Mitt Romney opposed bailing out the auto industry before bankruptcy – doing so would spoil a golden opportunity to stick it to the auto workers. It's fitting then that Ohio auto workers are making the most of their opportunity to stick it to Mitt Romney.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

Horoscope

Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** All the ideas you conceive will be constructive and functional, yet you may have to water them down a bit, in order for them to be employable by less-gifted minds.

Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Financial conditions are a bit unusual, causing you to experience both gains and losses. Fortunately, you're likely to be using far more black than red ink.

Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19**. Chances are you'll be far luckier when involved in independent projects rather than group-oriented ones. Go it alone if you can.

Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Be prepared for a bumpy ride in terms of your financial prospects. If you keep a cool head and a ready hand, you should be able to ride out the turbulence.

Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Do not discount any hunches, especially those that pertain to your work or career and could help advance your interests. Your thinking is right on target.

Aries **March 21-April 19.** Disengage from insignificant matters and concentrate on what is truly important. Lady Luck will be on your side when you pay attention to important objectives.

Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Details are extremely important, but somewhere along the way you must concentrate on the big picture. You can always go back and finesse the fine points at a later date.

Gemini **May 21-June 20.** An extremely enterprising associate with whom you've been closely involved in the past will be instrumental in helping you create something that could be very important.

Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you're looking to make some kind of important deal, this could be the day to do it. You're apt to be far more fortunate in striking a bargain or acquiring an important job.

Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Someone with whom you'll be involved could come up with an ingenious idea concerning your work or career. It'll have a few flaws, but they can be corrected.

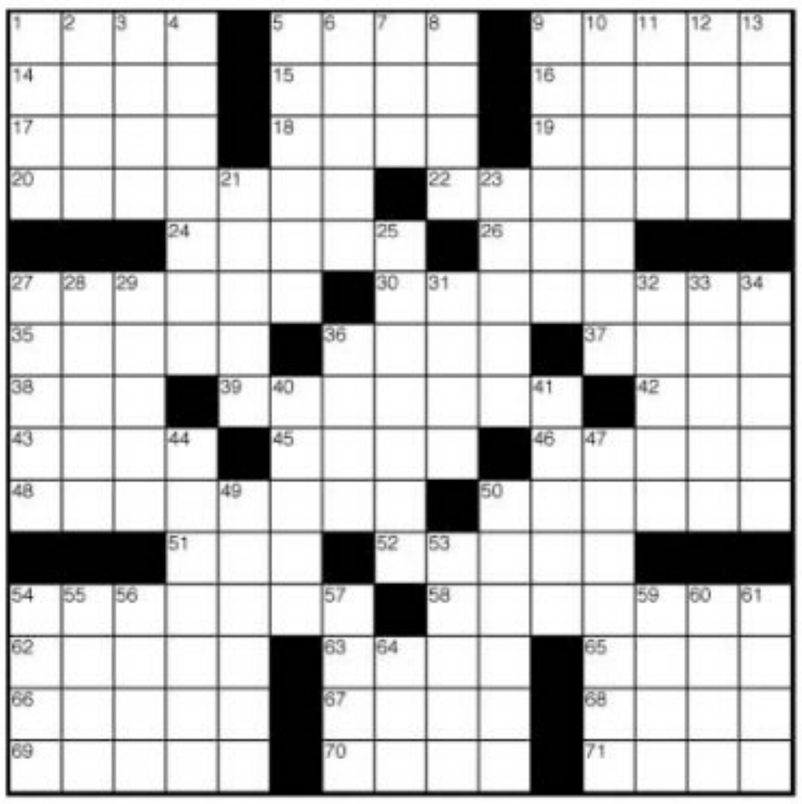
Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Be careful that you don't unintentionally impose yourself business-wise on someone you know purely on a social basis. Besides, chances are you'd do better without them, anyway.

Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** You're likely to find that a development that you thought was overwhelming is actually far less intimidating. All your fears will vanish.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Barter
6 Cat-goddess of Egypt
10 Like some errors
14 Psyched up
15 Memsahib's nanny
16 Outback mineral
17 Sky blue
18 LP player (hyph.)
19 Dole out
20 Medium's session
22 Said no politely
24 Cowhand's nickname
26 Low-fat latte at Starbucks
27 Jet set destination
31 Kind of system
32 Keep away from
33 Rattle
36 Photo
39 Sherpa's sighting
40 Wild guesses
41 Verne captain
42 Language suffix
43 Vacuum tube
44 Aired again
45 Place to surf
46 Roman-legion officer
48 Like some socks
51 Set the dog on
52 Charmed
54 Chocolate dessert
59 Blissful spot
60 Denny's rival
62 Scout unit
63 Mellowed
64 Whim
65 Lake near Reno
66 Capone foe
67 Bird-feeder treat
68 Like a hermit

Down
1 Herbal soothers
2 Level
3 Water, to Pedro
4 Bruce or Laura
5 Built
6 "Phooey!"
7 Between
8 Bank fixtures
9 Curdles
10 Hooded cloak
11 Philadelphia sch.
12 Ahoy, --!
13 Blackmailed dry
21 Ever, to Byron
23 Enjoy a sucker
25 Hobby knife (hyph.)
27 "Big Mouth" Martha
28 Currier and --
29 Go to the polls
30 Grandson, maybe
34 Youngster
35 Drives the getaway car
36 Amazon source
37 Statuesque model
38 Orange road marker
40 "Finlandia" composer
41 Kan. neighbor
43 Lox locale
44 Lasagna cheese
45 Injures
47 Basketball hoop
48 Blocky heel
49 Curved moldings
50 Mod jacket
52 Hit on the head
53 Venetian magistrate
55 Russian range
56 London district
57 By and by
58 Three-sided blade
61 Four-footed pal



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					8			3
3	9	6						
			3	9		6		7

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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7	9				2			3
	5					1	8	
		3			1			8
5			7		8			6
9			4			2		
	6	5					2	
8			6				9	1
		9		8		6		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to Tuesday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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3

Keeping Vick clean

This past Sunday marked just the second time this season Vick didn't commit a turnover, yet the Eagles still lost. Here's a look back at his clean games:

- Sept. 30 vs. Giants: Vick posts a 99.4 QB rating in 19-17 win. He threw for one touchdown.
- Oct. 28 vs. Falcons: Vick didn't fumble or throw a pick, but played an average game (84.3 rating in 30-17 loss).

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Vick will be the starting quarterback Monday night in New Orleans.

Reid: Vick still Eagles starting quarterback

◐ Head coach shoots down controversy ◐ No. 7 will be under center Monday ◐ Team back to work today

The long, drawn-out saga is over and the answer is the one everyone expected. Mike Vick remains the starting quarterback for the Eagles. Coach Andy Reid ended the quasi-controversy when he released a statement yesterday confirming the decision.

Rumors ran wild after Sunday's loss to Atlanta, when Reid said he was evaluating everything and everybody, including the quarterback position. When asked about it, Vick fueled the flames.

"Obviously he's thinking about making a change at the quarterback position," Vick said. "The thing I do know, and I'll go watch the film and evaluate myself, is that I'm giving us every opportunity to win. I'm trying my hardest. Some things don't go right, when I want them to, some things do. So if that's a decision that coach wants to make, then I support it."

Of course, looking at Vick's numbers, you understand why the question has been raised. The quarterback has completed 157-of-266 passes for 1,823 yards and nine touchdowns. However, his eight interceptions and nine lost fumbles is not acceptable. Vick's 78.6 rating also ranks 25th among NFL quarterbacks.

Nick Foles, the rookie backup fans are calling for, has yet to start a regular-season game after providing some highlight-reel plays in preseason.

The Eagles have been off since Sunday's loss, but hit the field today for practice. Reid and Vick are both expected to address the medi before that session in South Philly.

MIKE GREGER
mgreger@metro.us

Matter of pride for these Birds?

There might be no "I" in team, but there is a huge "I" in pride. That's something the Eagles didn't display Sunday.

One of the trademarks of Reid's tenure has been bouncing back from losses, fighting to the final whistle and respecting the wings on the helmet. None of those things were evident at the Linc as "Fire Andy" chants rained down.

"I'm just saying what it looked like," said LeSean McCoy. "How we played, how the game ended, I didn't see any pride. I didn't see any heart."

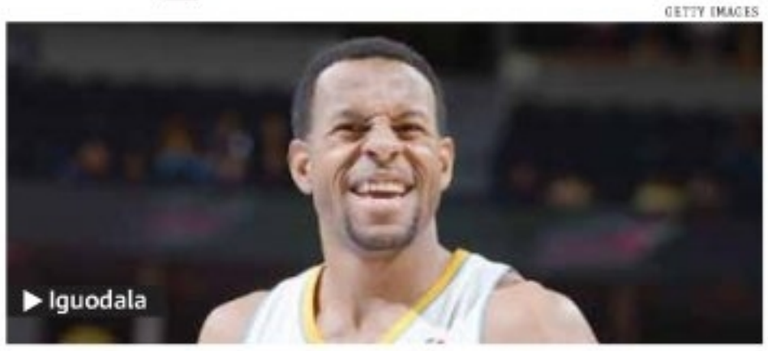
Sixers pay tribute to Iguodala, swingman praises old team

Andre Iguodala was back in town last night, making his debut for the Denver Nuggets. His old team, the Sixers, honored his eight seasons here with a tribute video during the game's first timeout.

(And yes, he got booed then and every time he touched the ball in last night's game, which ended too late).

Before the game, Iguodala took some time to reflect on his career. Previously, he had criticized the organization, coaches and fans. But Iguodala actually praised the Sixers, especially their new additions.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Iguodala

"They play similar to how George Karl wants us to play moving the ball up and down especially with [Andrew] Bynum out," Iguodala said. "They have some great shooters in Dorell Wright and Jason Richardson, and Nick Young is probably one of the best shot makers in the league as far as him being able to get his shot off at any time."

When pressed about the trade and Sixers fans, Iguodala took the high road.

"You roll with the punches. You play the cards you're dealt and I am just looking forward to a new challenge, a new chapter," he said. "I didn't have any animosity or negative thoughts towards the fans here. They were great. They will still be passionate about their team and that is how it should be." METRO

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